GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:57
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2016
Indian Contingent to Olympics
Rao (Avnthi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa;Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is satisfied with the training imparted and the motivation levels of Indian contingent participating in Rio Olympics and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether adequate precautions/ steps have been taken to ensure Indian food, comforts etc. so that they feel at home and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is concerned about the safety of the Indian contingent participating in the Rio Olympics especially on account of Zika virus and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the precautionary measures the Government is taking to ensure safe stay of the Indian contingent in Brazil?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.57 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20-07-2016 REGARDING INDIAN CONTINGENT TO OLYMPICS BY SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY AND SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI).

(a): Yes, Madam. Preparations for the forthcoming Olympic Games, which are scheduled to be held from 5-21 August 2016 at Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), are going on in the right earnest. The Government is making every effort to ensure the required training of the sportspersons so that they return with a good haul of medals and make the country proud.
Identified probable athletes and selected elite athletes have been provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support under the Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme, which the Government specifically formulated and launched in 2014 under the National Sports Development Fund with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for Rio Olympics, 2016 and Olympic Games, 2020.
Further, National coaching camps have been organized and competitive exposure has been provided abroad to the identified probables.
As on 15.7.2016, the Indian contingent for the Rio Olympics, 2016 comprises 124 sportspersons. This is India's largest ever contingent for Olympic Games.

(b): The Indian Olympics Association (IOA) has written to the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games requesting them to include Indian dishes in the menu of the Games Village for the Indian contingent staying in the Games Village during the Rio Olympics 2016. The Rio 2016 Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games has agreed to include Indian dishes in their menu of the Games Village.
Stay of the members of Indian contingent including sportspersons, coaches and other support personnel will be in the Olympic Games village, where all requirements relating to comfort, food, etc., will be taken care of.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports had consulted the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to give necessary advice about preventive measures, vaccination or medicines against Zika Virus for members of the Indian contingent.

Guidelines received from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare on Zika Virus Disease, Zika Virus fact sheet, Travel Advisory and Dos and Donts for Zika Virus Disease have been given to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and Sports Authority of India (SAI) for informing/ advising the sportspersons, coaches and other officials of the Indian contingent who will be visiting Brazil for participation in the XXXI Olympic Games 2016.
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